

# Sophomore Year Planner

- Keep track of your academic and extracurricular awards, service activities, and anything else. It will come in handy when you want to highlight your accomplishments - such as when filling out applications, creating a resume, or applying to NHS.
- Stay on top of your academics. Monitor your grades regularly using your Skyward portal. Use study groups and tutors as needed.
- Review your transcript. Understand the difference between your weighted and unweighted GPA. Talk with your counselor about your grades.
- Review the strengths and weaknesses of your freshman year PSAT-9 with your counselor. The PSAT provides valuable feedback on your college and career readiness. Develop a personalized plan to help you get ready for taking the SAT and possibly the ACT in your junior year.
- Take the free Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT 10) in the spring. Download the free Daily Practice for the New SAT app to get a feel for the kinds of questions you might face on test day.
- Talk to your counselor about your plans for life after high school. The more your counselor knows about you, the more she can help you along the way. Be sure to meet with your school counselor to ensure that your course schedule is challenging enough to prepare you for the future.
- Visit the College and Career Center to see how we can help you get where you want to go. Find out what kinds of postsecondary schools offer the education you need to meet your career plans.
- Along with your family, do some research about how to obtain financial aid. Many students use financial aid to cover post-secondary education costs. Find out what financial aid is, where it comes from, and how you can apply for it. Read the U.S. Department of Education's "Funding Your Education" (about federal aid programs) at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov).
- Tour college and vocational school campuses. If possible, take advantage of vacation or other family travel time to visit and see what they're like. Even if you have no interest in attending the school you are visiting, it will help you learn what to look for in a college/trade school.
- Continue to participate in school activities and earning student service hours. Extracurricular activities and service can help you develop time management

skills, enrich your high school experience, and possibly help solidify career plans

- Select next year's courses to reflect your interests, academic preparation, and emerging career plans. Take challenging classes, when appropriate.
- Athletes should read the NCAA Guide for the College Bound Student Athlete.
- If you interested in attending a U.S. military academy, request a pre-candidate questionnaire.
- Plan summer activities. Consider a summer job, enrichment program, volunteering, studying for the SAT or ACT, and visiting colleges/trade schools. Reconnect with your goals for academic and personal success.